

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Stevens. The Examiner rejected claims 17, 19, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Reid. The Examiner rejected claims 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reid. The Examiner rejected claims 17 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rudell. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stevens in view of Reid. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 8, 17 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rudell in view of Reid. The claims have been amended to recite an audible indicator. An audible indicator provides information to the user regarding motor characteristics without having to visually identify and read the indicator. This is particularly advantageous when jumping rope wherein the user is concentrating on the rope jumping activity. The recited apparatus allows the user to concentrate on jumping rope while receiving audible information regarding a motor characteristic. This is to be distinguished from Stevens or Reid.

Stevens merely provides a counter that must be viewed by the user to determine the frequency of use. The Applicant notes that the counter is located on a rear face of one of the stations. It does not appear that a user can use the counter while jumping rope. Reid also does not provide audible information regarding a motor characteristic. The control panel of Reid visually displays speed and time. It is not clear from this reference whether the user could view this information while jumping rope.

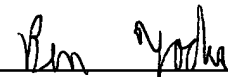
The claims recite an audible indicator to provide audible information regarding a motor characteristic. Such a scheme allows a user to receive such information while jumping rope. None of the references recited by the Examiner disclose or suggest such a limitation. For this reason the Applicant submits that the references cited by the Examiner neither anticipate nor render obvious the pending claims of the above entitled application.

In view of the above it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 1, 3-9, 11-17 and 19-21 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

IRELL & MANELLA LLP

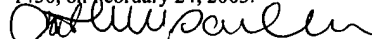
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